



For details, art or photos about FLICKERS media releases, contact Chelsea Boulrisse (cboulrisse@film-festival.org) or Amber Ramundo, (aramundo@film-festival.org)

THE VETS AND FLICKERS PRESENT: THE “SECRET CINEMA” LGBTQ FILM FESTIVAL PREVIEW

SPECIAL PREVIEW SCREENINGS SHOWCASE UPCOMING AUGUST FESTIVAL

PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST:

WHAT: The 11th Annual Flickers’ “Secret Cinema” LGBTQ Festival Preview (part of the Rhode Island International Film Festival)

WHEN: Friday and Saturday, June 13th & 14th, 2014, at 7:30 p.m.

WHERE:

- Friday, June 13th - The Vets, 1 Avenue of the Arts (with entry at 83 Park Street, rear of the bldg.), Providence, RI
- Saturday, June 14th - The Bells Street Chapel Theatre, 5 Bell Street, Providence, RI

WHO: THE VETS and FLICKERS: Newport Film Society & Arts Collaborative, creator and producer of the Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)

HOW MUCH: \$10 donation

(PROVIDENCE, RI) • This year marks the 18th anniversary of the **Flickers: Rhode Island International Film Festival** (RIIFF). For the past 11 years during the month of June, Flickers has hosted a sneak peek of its main Festival LGBTQ sidebar. The annual event is called a “Secret Cinema” since Flickers’ schedule has not yet been officially released. This highly popular program is presented in recognition of Gay Pride Month and is part of the Festival’s community outreach efforts. Flickers will donate 50% of the admission fee to local LGBTQ organizations. New this year is the Festival’s partnership with The Vets (Veterans Memorial Auditorium) for a special screening in their newly christened 6th Floor Ballroom. This screening includes an opportunity to see a preview of a powerful new documentary by Rhode Island native and filmmaker, **Alexia Kosmider**.

The annual **Providence LGBTQ Film Festival** is a Festival sidebar that showcases cinematic work that reflects all aspects of the LGBTQ experience. Programming will include an expanded focus on the growing social and political awareness of the international transgender community,



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marginalized LGBTQ youth and an exploration of relationships within the international LGBTQ community.

This year's programming is made possible through a unique partnership among FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival, The Vets, the Bell Street Chapel and the Rhode Island Foundation's "Equity Action." The Equity Action Fund is a field of interest program at the Foundation that advances equitable treatment for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Rhode Island residents.

The films to be presented at the "Secret Cinema" screenings represent a diverse collection of newly discovered shorts and feature films chosen from a pool of over 5,000 international submissions. Along with films that include well-known actors such as Christopher Atkins, Lee Meriwether, David Pevsner and American musical icon, Shirley Jones, attendees will have the privilege of watching a sneak peek preview of **"TransJourney,"** a new documentary by Rhode Island native, Alexia Kosmider. The film chronicles the journey of Sandy as she travels across the country from Rhode Island to Seattle to meet her "new" daughter and bring herself a little closer to Annabelle's new world as a woman.

"TransJourney" is poised to hold its world premiere during the Festival in August.

Flickers' "Secret Cinema" LGBTQ Festival Preview, will be presented this year at The Vets on Friday evening, June 13th and at the historic Bell Street Chapel on Saturday, June 14th. Both screenings will start at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the door for both screenings. A \$10 donation is suggested for admission.

Flickers' portion of the proceeds from the Friday night screening at The Vets will be donated to **PFLAG** – The Greater Providence Chapter, RI, an organization in support of parents, friends and families of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender children in Rhode Island. With the goal to create a vast support network for the LGBTQ community, PFLAG's mission is to advocate equal—not special—civil rights for members of the LGBTQ community. Sandra Richards, the president of the Rhode Island chapter of PFLAG, is, along with her daughter Annabelle, one of the central subjects in **TransJourney** and will be in attendance at Friday night's screening to discuss the film with the audience.



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On Saturday, Flickers will donate all proceeds from the screening to both the Bell Street Chapel and to Options Magazine, a non-profit publication of news and events within the Rhode Island LGBTQ community.

For more information, directions and the Festival background: <http://www.film-festival.org/Prov.GLBT.FestPREV14.php>

ABOUT FLICKERS: RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:

The FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF), has secured its place in the global community as the portal for the best in international independent cinema, earning the respect of domestic and foreign filmmakers, filmgoers and trend watchers. RIIFF is widely recognized as a credentialed, industry-friendly launch pad for the work of exceptional emerging talent. This confluence of art and commerce brings together world-class celebrities, award-winning filmmakers, new talent and enthusiastic audience members. Ranked as one of the top 10 Festivals in the United States and the largest Film Festival in New England, RIIFF is also a qualifying festival for both the Short Film and Short Subject Documentary Academy Awards through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. Out of over 7,000 film festivals in existence, RIIFF is one of only 19 festivals worldwide that share both these distinctions. The Festival takes place this year, August 5—10, 2014. For more information, please visit www.rifilmfest.org.

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